



said controller electrically coupled to said one or more active electro-magnetic wave-ranging devices generating said object motion signal in response to said first object detection signal and said second object detection signal.

[c6] A system as in claim 5 wherein said controller in generating said collision severity signal determines height and width information of said object in response to said first object detection signal and determines depth and velocity of said object in response to said second object detection signal.

[c7] A system as in claim 5 wherein said active electro-magnetic wave-ranging devices are integrally incorporated within at least one of the following: a radar system, a lidar system, a monocular camera, or a stereo camera pair.

[c8] A system as in claim 1 wherein at least one of said one or more object detection sensors is a camera.

[c9] A system as in claim 1 further comprising:  
a velocity sensor electrically coupled to said controller and generating a host vehicle velocity signal; and  
said controller generating said collision severity signal in response to said object motion signal and said host vehicle velocity signal.

[c10] A method of determining motion properties of an object from within an automotive vehicle comprising:  
detecting the object and generating a first object detection signal;  
determining velocity of the object relative to the automotive vehicle in response to said first object detection signal and generating a first object velocity signal;  
determining a visual parameter of the object in response to said first object detection signal and generating an object parameter signal; and  
determining motion properties of the object in response to said first object velocity signal and said object parameter signal.

[c11] A method as in claim 10 further comprising:  
detecting the object and generating a second object detection signal;  
determining velocity of the object relative to the automotive vehicle in response to said second object detection signal and generating a second object velocity

- signal;
- determining a visual parameter of the object in response to said first object detection signal and generating an object parameter signal; and
- determining motion properties of the object in response to said second object velocity signal and said object parameter signal.
- [c12] A method as in claim 10 wherein determining a visual parameter of the object is in response to said first object detection signal and said second object detection signal.
- [c13] A method as in claim 10 wherein determining motion properties of the object comprises:
- classifying the object and generating a classification signal; and
- estimating mass of the object in response to said classification signal.
- [c14] A method as in claim 10 wherein said visual parameter is at least one of an object height, an object width, an object depth, and a surface shape or characteristic of said object.
- [c15] A method as in claim 10 further comprising:
- estimating area of said object and generating an area signal in response to said object parameter signal;
- estimating mass of said object and generating an object mass signal in response to said area signal; and
- determining motion properties of said object in response to said object velocity signal and said object mass signal.
- [c16] A method as in claim 10 further comprising:
- estimating volume of said object and generating a volume signal in response to object parameter signal;
- estimating mass of said object and generating an object mass signal in response to said volume signal; and
- determining motion properties of said object in response to said object velocity signal and said object mass signal.
- [c17] A method of performing a collision countermeasure within an automotive

vehicle comprising:

determining motion properties of the automotive vehicle and generating a vehicle motion signal;

detecting an object and generating an object detection signal;

determining velocity of said object in response to said object detection signal and generating an object velocity signal;

determining a visual parameter of said object and generating an object parameter signal;

determining potential collision severity of the automotive vehicle and said object in response to said vehicle motion signal, said object velocity signal, and said object parameter signal and generating a collision severity signal; and performing a collision countermeasure in response to said collision severity signal.

[c18] A method as in claim 17 wherein determining potential collision severity comprises:

classifying said object in response to said object parameter signal and generating a classification signal; and

determining motion properties of said object in response to said classification signal.

[c19] A method as in claim 17 wherein determining potential collision severity of the automotive vehicle and said object comprises multiplying the difference in a motion property of the automotive vehicle and a motion property of said object by a class severity rating.

[c20] A method as in claim 17 wherein performing a collision countermeasure comprises performing a passive or active countermeasure.